

Message Text

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47

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NASA-01 NSC-05 CCO-00 OTPE-00

EB-07 FCC-01 OC-05 USIA-06 COME-00 BIB-01 /064 W

----- 014309

P 201250Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6584

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMCONGEN KARACHI PRIORITY

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DEPT PASS TO NASA FOR FRUTKIN AND GODDARD CODE 800

ISLAMABAD FOR GALLUP

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, IR, PK

SUBJECT: SITE SURVEY FOR PORTABLE LANDSAT STATION

1. ACTING SCIATT AND MCKEEHAN MET WITH ALI GHAZI 20 APRIL TO DISCUSS UNRESOLVED ISSUES REGARDING PROPOSED NASA INSTALLATION AT KARAJ. GHAZI STATED THE NEXT STEP WAS TO PREPARE A REPORT TO THE SHAH. HE THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE DONE IN ABOUT TEN DAYS. APPARENTLY DECISION TO SUBMIT QUESTION TO SHAH WAS MADE BY MAJIDI IN ROME. JAZAYERI MADE NO MENTION OF IT IN ANY OF HIS MEETINGS WITH NASA TEAM.

2. GHAZI STATED THAT FOLLOWING SHAH'S APPROVAL, SITE PREPARATION COULD BEGIN. HE ALSO STATED THAT ALL CUSTOMS QUESTIONS COULD BE RESOLVED AT THAT TIME BY A LETTER FROM GHOTBI TO THE APPROPRIATE CUSTOMS OFFICIAL.

3. MCKEEHAN IS ON GHOTBI'S CALENDAR FOR SATURDAY 24 APRIL. FURTHER DELAY IS POSSIBLE SINCE GHOTBI IS NOT YET IN IRAN.

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GHAZI DECLINED TO CONTACT PTT IN MEANTIME. GHOTBI WILL HAVE

TO MAKE FIRST CONTACT.

4. ASSESSMENT BY ACTING SCIATT AND MCKEEHAN IS ONE OF LITTLE CONFIDENCE THAT PLAN AND BUDGET CAN PRODUCE ON ACCEPTABLE SCHEDULE. ACTION BY SHAH WILL TAKE MINIMUM OF TWO WEEKS. A FAVORABLE DECISION STILL REQUIRES IMPLEMENTATION BY A LETHARGIC BUREAUCRACY. NOTWITHSTANDING GHAZI'S ASSURANCES REGARDING CUSTOMS, ACTING SCIATT AND JAZAERI, IN EARLIER MEETING, BOTH FORESEE DELAYS FROM THAT QUARTER. AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN IN TEHRAN HAVE ALSO SUGGESTED CUSTOMS DIFFICULTIES.

5. MCKEEHAN NOTES THAT NO PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE BY PLAN AND BUDGET ON THEIR OWN INITIATIVE SINCE THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT FOR VISIT BY TEAM. THERE HAS BEEN NO REACTION TO THE 6 APRIL NOTE AND THE 12 APRIL PRELIMINARY DRAFT TEXT. GHAZI HAS RECEIVED NEITHER OF THESE DOCUMENTS FROM THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

6. IF MEETING WITH GHOTBI OCCURS 24 APRIL, COMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE BEFORE MIDDLE OF FOLLOWING WEEK. ACCESS FOR SITE CONSTRUCTION MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE UNTIL WELL INTO MAY.

7. MCKEEHAN RECOMMENDS RAWALPINDI.
HELMS

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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